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ate discussion, but the map recognizes that the ore deposits are of different ages and the context makes the hypothesis applicable to deposits of other ages. Of course changes in the courses of the currents, changes in the areas of derivation, and in those of deposition must be taken into consideration in explaining the later deposits. If the hypothesis urged by Chamberlin is good at all, it is applicable to all ages, because there must always have been different degrees of enrichment of the oceanic waters in different parts corresponding to the different amounts of metalliferous material brought in from the land and this must have been carried in the direction of prevailing currents. If the inequalities of the sea bottom tended to concentrate metalliferous deposits at one age they should do so at others under similar conditions. Mr. Winslow lays much emphasis upon the degradation of the formations whereby the disseminated metals were removed from their original matrix and brought together in the crevices or cavities in which the ores were accumulated. He justly points out the distinction between this and the narrow views of lateral secretion against which some authors have argued. Perhaps on his own part he is not wholly beyond criticism in the same direction in his interpretation of the views of Whitney and Chamberlin which are scarcely distinguishable from his own in this particular. The ideal diagram on page 548 of *The Ore Deposits of Southwestern Wisconsin*, Vol. IV., Geology of Wisconsin, very sharply emphasizes the function of surface decomposition, conjoined with concentration and segregation below. But this is rather a matter of nice toning and shading of opinion than of important distinctions. The report is much to be commended for its great array of facts which will form a memorable contribution to the science of ore deposits. Mr. Winslow has prepared a list of errata which he will gladly send to any desiring it. T. C. C.

Elementary Palæontology for Geological Students. By HENRY WOODS, B.A., F.G.S. [Cambridge University Press. Macmillan & Co., N. Y.]

This book will supply a want felt in all colleges where historical geology or palæontology is taught. It is something that has been lacking in the English literature on this subject. Though we have great palæontologists and have in our libraries numerous large and well written works on palæontology in various foreign languages and

some in our own, students wishing to get a clear idea of the foundation principles of the subject have been obliged either to wade through volumes of technical English works or to materially lessen their interest in the subject by struggling with the difficulties of a foreign language. The author presents in a condensed form the principal structural features of invertebrate fossils, and gives the generally accepted classification, with clear descriptions of the larger groups and principal genera. The book though perhaps too elementary for those taking up the study of palæontology with the intention of devoting considerable time to it, could still be used with profit for some time by such students. Its greatest usefulness will be, however, in aiding those who take up the natural sciences, for general culture only, to get a clear idea of the subject without becoming confused by a mass of details.

J. C. M.

Geological and Natural History Survey of Minnesota. N. H. WINCHELL, State Geologist, 1885-92. *Geology of Minnesota*, Vol. III., Part I., Final Report, Palæontology, by Leo Lesquereux, Anthony Woodward, Benjamin W. Thomas, Charles Schuchert, Edward O. Ulrich, Newton W. Winchell. 41 plates and 34 figures, pp. lxxv. + 474. Published by the state. Minneapolis, Minn., 1895.

This important report opens with an excellent historical sketch of previous investigations of the Lower Silurian formations of the Upper Mississippi Valley by Professors Winchell and Ulrich. Students of the region will find this very convenient in directing them to the literature of the subject not only, but in giving them some indication of the conclusions reached in the works referred to. This is followed by a chapter on the Cretaceous fossil plants of Minnesota by the veteran palæobotanist, Leo Lesquereux. In the introduction to this, attention is called to the remarkably abrupt substitution of the Cenozoic flora for the Mesozoic flora in the midst of the Cretaceous period, and emphasis is laid upon the great diversity of the dicotyledonous forms upon their first appearance, and the lack of any satisfactory explanation of this phenomenon at present. Twenty-three species are described, of which seven are new. This is followed by a chapter on the microscopic fauna of the Cretaceous deposits in Minnesota, with additions from Nebraska and Illinois, by Anthony Woodward and Benjamin W.